

# **WALL SPRINGS PARK**

**Environmental Science Forum**





## **Wall Springs Park consists of these areas:**

- **Original acquired property with springs and island ( $\pm$  84 acres).**
- **Coastal Addition I ( $\pm$  33 acres).**
- **Coastal Addition II (84.35 acres).**
- **Coastal Addition III (4.143 acres).**



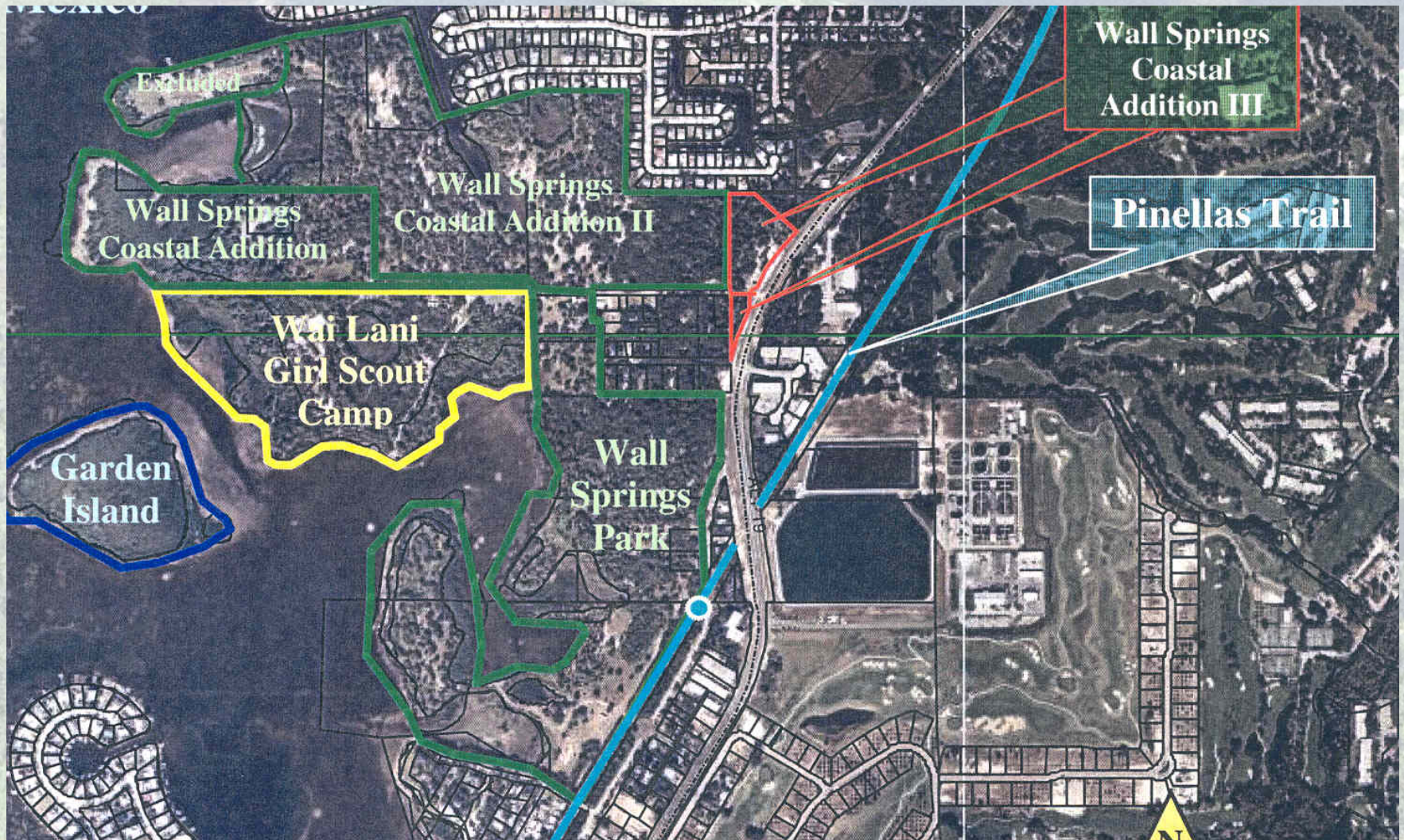
**This brings total acreage to  $\pm$  210 acres.**

**Coastal Additions often collectively referred to as McMullen property since most of this property was purchased from the McMullen family.**





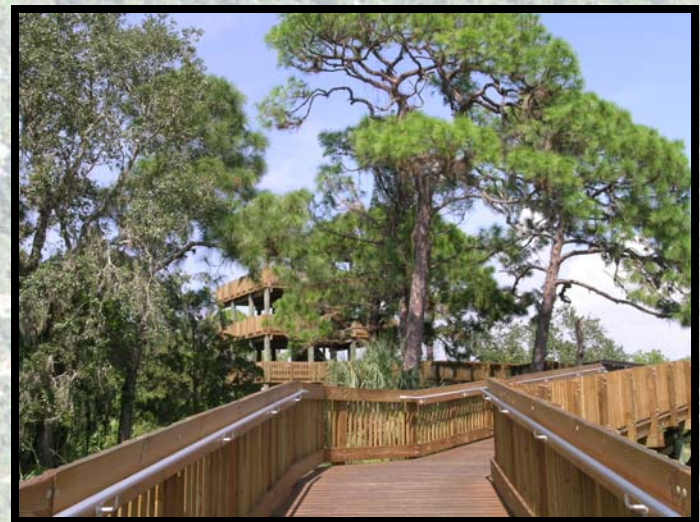
# Parcel Identification





**Wall Springs was site of historically popular spa & swimming area with associated underground caves.**

**Amenities on Wall Springs parcel include parking, restroom, picnic shelters, barrier free playground, 3-story observation tower, fishing piers and boardwalk trails for nature observation.**





# COASTAL ADDITION I

- **Consists of several parcels totaling  $\pm$  33 acres.**
- **Includes former homesite currently being used for office and maintenance functions.**
- **Contains freshwater wetlands, estuary, mangrove swamp, pine flatwoods and sandhill.**
- **Recipient of Florida Communities Trust (FCT) Florida Forever grant funding in the amount of \$6,600,000 for property acquisition.**





## COASTAL ADDITION II

- **Consists of  $\pm$  88.57 acres. Of this,  $\pm$  4.22 highly disturbed & cleared acres of the northernmost property were excluded from FCT grant.**
- **Includes a stilt home and pier; both in poor condition. Stilt home now demolished.**
- **Contains mesic flatwoods, salt marsh and sandhill.**
- **Recipient of Florida Communities Trust Florida Forever grant funding in the amount of \$3,493,686 for property acquisition.**





## COASTAL ADDITION III

- **Consists of parcels totaling  $\pm$  4.143 acres that are split by Wai Lani Road and front U.S. Alt 19.**
- **Includes remnants of former homesite.**
- **Contains sandhill and scrubby flatwoods.**
- **Recipient of Florida Communities Trust (FCT) Florida Forever grant funding in the amount of \$435,900 for property acquisition.**





## **COASTAL ADDITIONS I, II & III**

- **Acquired to protect contiguous sandhill totaling ±51 acres and provide nature-based recreational opportunities.**
- **Under Management Plan approved by Florida Communities Trust.**
- **Management Plan revised with each acquisition of property. Most recent revision was approved by FCT in January 2006.**

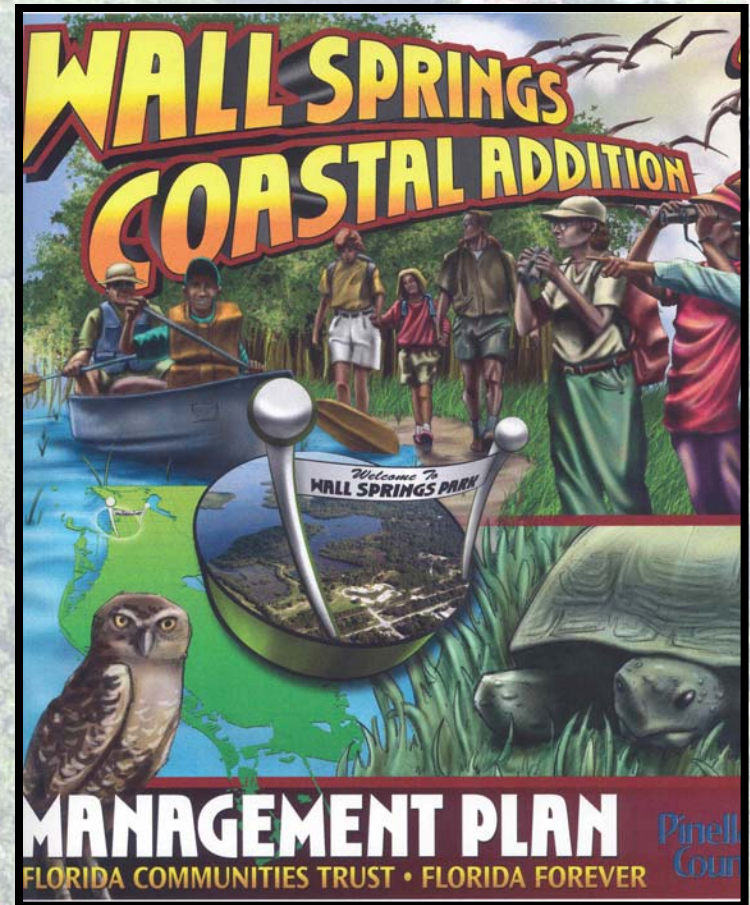


**Eagle Scout bat house project.**



# COASTAL ADDITIONS I, II & III

- Management plan includes:
  - Protection of natural resources.
  - Restoration of natural communities.
  - Provision of public access to shoreline & bay.
  - Provision of environmental education programming.





# COASTAL ADDITIONS I, II & III

## ➤ Achievements to date:

- Acquisition of grant funding in amount of \$159,300. Used to remove invasive exotic plants on property and provide native plants for restoration plantings.



**Pre-control-Brazilian Peppers**



**Post-control**



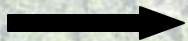
# COASTAL ADDITIONS I, II & III

## ➤ Achievements to date:

### ➤ Extensive invasive exotic plant control.

### ➤ Species included air potato, Australian pine, Brazilian pepper, cogon grass, carrotwood, chinaberry, punk trees and others.

**Australian  
pine  
monoculture  
removal and  
the mulch it  
generated.**





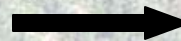
# COASTAL ADDITIONS I, II & III

## ➤ Achievements to date:

➤ Habitat restoration in areas where invasive exotics were removed.

➤ Restoration plantings with site appropriate natives including longleaf pine, southern red cedar, wax myrtle, yaupon holly, live oak, cabbage palm and other natives.

Area cleared of  
Australian pine  
and restored.





# COASTAL ADDITIONS I, II & III

- **Achievements to date:**
  - **Completion of archeological study and establishment of Master Site Files with Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources.**
  - **Cataloging of artifacts in process.**





# COASTAL ADDITIONS I, II & III

## ➤ Achievements to date:

- Development of prescribed fire plan.
- Interpretive tours to groups upon request.
- Extensive floral and faunal inventory.





# COASTAL ADDITIONS I, II & III

## ➤ Summary:

- Totals ±125 acres
- Received \$10,529,586 in FCT grant funding for land acquisition.
- Received \$159,300 in grant funding for habitat restoration.

Ephemeral pond.





# COASTAL ADDITIONS I, II & III

## ➤ Proposed amenities:

- Nature trails & canoe/kayak launches & trail.
- Parking, restroom & picnic shelters.
- Sunset pavilion (in northern disturbed area).
- Educational programming center.
- Observation platform.







## Conceptual Master Plan

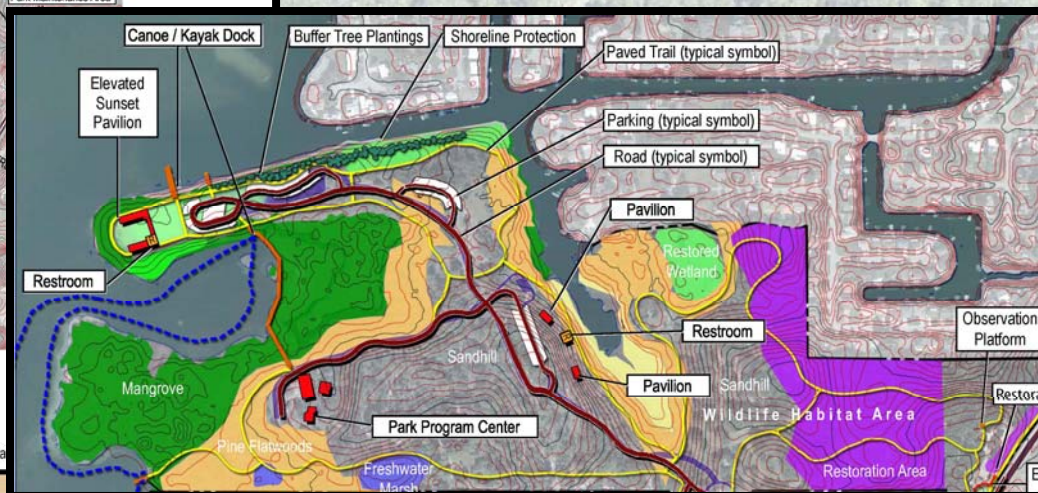
countywide system of  
resource & activity-  
based recreational &  
open space  
opportunities.  
Pinellas County Comprehensive Plan  
Recreation & Open Space Element

# Conceptual Plan

The conceptual plan is subject to modification derived from stakeholder input.



Exhibit K



Pinellas  
County



Recreation, Open Space and Cultural  
**MASTER PLAN**

**Wall Springs Park**





**THANK YOU!**